

**CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS
IN THIS ISSUE!!!**

**SERVING THE
LV GLBT
COMMUNITY
SINCE 1998**

VALLEY GAY PRESS

THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S
GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER
COMMUNITY OPINION & NEWS PAPER

VOL. 8 NO. 4

MAY 2005

GAY MEN'S CHORUS TO MARK ANNIVERSARY WITH CONCERT, JUNE 4

The Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus will celebrate its 10th year on June 4, with a 10th Anniversary Concert and Reception at the Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem, beginning at 8 PM with a concert featuring Artistic Director Adam P. Koch, past artistic directors, the world premiere of "Aspects of Growth" composed by LVGMC co-founder Dr. Robert Roush, and a few additional surprises. Joining the LVGMC will be the Harrisburg Men's Chorus and Lehigh Valley's own Brian Marks. The evening will conclude with a gala catered reception. Tickets are \$15 (\$8 for students and Sr. Citizens) and include concert admission and reception. Reserve tickets by calling 610-366-3320. Tickets also available at the door. Visa/MC are accepted. See the LVGMC website www.lvgmc.org for information.

INTERWEAVE REGIONAL RETREAT OFFERS WORKSHOPS

Interweave invites YOU to a regional Spring Retreat from 8:30am -5:30 pm on Saturday, May 7 at the UUCLV. A full day of Educational, Legal, Spiritual, Social, & Creative Workshops featuring local, regional & national GLBT advocates & community leaders. All interested, supporting, affirming persons are welcome. Registration Fee is \$35.00 per person (sliding scale) with breakfast & lunch included. Volunteer duties can be arranged in lieu of fees. Late registrations will be taken at the door, but reservations are required. For more info, contact: Allyson Diane Hamm, Retreat Chair at Interweave_UUCLV-owner@yahoo.com or call UUCLV at 610-866-7652.

Workshops & speakers: Legal Papers You Need to Protect Yourself & Your Same Sex Partner by Liz Bradbury & Dr. Patricia Sullivan, How to Talk about (Inter)sex to Practically Anyone by Betsy Driver, Homosexuality and the Bible by Rev. Elizabeth Goudy, Coming Out Acceptance Ritual by Rev. Rik Fire, How to Start a GLBTIQ Youth Program in Your Community by Ilse Stoll Zinnes & Pete Pellegrino, Building Intimacy by Alicia Albamonte, The Queer Alphabet: Defining & Explaining the Letters & Controversial Language that make up the GLBTIQQA Community by Allyson Diane Hamm, Creating Masks: A Hands-on Exploration of Self Image by Alicia Albamonte, Drum Circle by Rev. Rik Fire.

FOR THE LATEST PRIDE IN THE PARK & RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP INFO SEE PAGE 5

MEET CANDIDATES & SUPPORT PA-GALA ON CINCO DE MAYO (MAY 5)

Celebrate CINCO de MAYO with PA-GALA on Thursday, May 5 from 7-9 pm at the Penthouse & Patio of the TEC Building (formerly Petros Restaurant) 11th & Hamilton Sts., Allentown. Come out to mingle, meet the candidates & support PA-GALA's work for GLBT rights. \$20 per person or \$30 per couple. Contributions can be used to increase your Rainbow Team giving status. Food & Drink are included. All ages welcome. Bring the kids. (They get in free.) For more info on PA-GALA, contact 610-863-0227 or info@pa-gala.org or <http://www.pa-gala.org>.



COMMUNITY MOURNS JIM GEIGER

A tragic car accident took the life of James Geiger on April 14. VGP offers our sincerest condolences to Kurt Sauer, and Jim's family. Read about Jim in Scott's article on page 6.

GLBT Infoline
Greater Lehigh Valley

610-HELP-123

(610-435-7123)

**MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
6PM - 9PM**

The Greater Lehigh Valley's Second Annual prizmprom

A Celebration for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Allied (GLBTQA) Youth.

Sunday, May 22nd 2005

7:00 PM - 11:00 PM

Radisson Hotel Bethlehem

Tickets \$25.00 per person (advance)
\$30.00 (after May 1st & at door)

ON SALE NOW

Ages 14 - 20*

Formal attire is optional, but is strongly recommended
2005 Prizma Prom Court crowning at 10 PM

Brought to you by
HAVEN

A group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual,
Transgender, Questioning and Allied Youth

Tickets can be purchased at HAVEN's regular
Wed. 7-9pm meetings at UUCLV,
424 Center St., Bethlehem

for more information, how to purchase tickets and merchant discounts visit

www.prizmprom.com

*Youth wishing to attend the prom who are not between the ages of 14 and 20 must contact HAVEN at havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or 610.868.2153

VALLEY GAY PRESS

WEB SITE: WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

Publisher, Managing Editor - Liz Bradbury

Publisher, Editor - Patricia Sullivan

Columnists: Liz Bradbury, Patricia Sullivan, Denise McKelvey Ruby Zebu, Donnie and Earl Snyder, Stephen Libby, Scott Laubner

Valley Gay Press - The Lehigh Valley's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Community Opinion and Newspaper (VGP) operates as part of Pennsylvania Diversity Network VGP owns the copyright to its articles and columns. No part may be reproduced without written permission of the Publisher VGP offers free copies for direct mail and hand-out distribution to Lehigh Valley area not-for-profit organizations and businesses. The opinions expressed by columnists are their own and should not be attributed to this paper

Organizations that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:

Metropolitan Community Church of the Lehigh Valley

1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown 610-709-8800

PFLAG Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Allentown, 610.967.5219 [HTTP://www.eastern-papflag.org/](http://www.eastern-papflag.org/)

Pride House at Muhlenberg College, Allentown

19th Street Theater - 527 N 19th St. Allentown

Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley (UUCLV)

- 424 Center St., Bethlehem

Haven GLBTA Youth Group at UUCLV

Businesses that have VGPs for hand-out distribution:

Diamonz Nightclub - 1913 W. Broad St., Bethlehem

Stonewall Bar - 28-30 N. 10th St., Allentown

Candida's - 247 N. 12th St., Allentown

Hava Java Coffee Shop - N. 19th St.

Monthly Direct Mail Distribution

Currently the Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) mails the Valley Gay Press to its members. To become a member of PA-GALA, send \$25 for an individual membership or \$35 for a family membership to: PA-GALA PO Box 20825 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

To contact Valley Gay Press:

Mail to: PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 Phone: 610-432-5449

Email: liztrish@aol.com To arrange for your group or organization to receive copies to distribute, contact VGP Some restrictions apply



Dear WTA, What did the candidates who came to PA-GALA's Bethlehem candidate night say about GLBT issues? **Signed Super Voter.**

Dear SV, VGP was at that event and was pleased to see 6 candidates speak from the stage at Diamonz. It's funny how many of the candidates don't seem to get that when they are invited to speak in a GLBT forum, they really should mention GLBT issues, at least for a little while, before they hit the standard, "I'm anti-crime and pro-economic development" refrain. These candidates sung that refrain, then answered questions from the floor.

The excellent news is that Anthony Rybak (D) who is running for Mayor of Bethlehem, and Michelle Lawson, Dave Sanders, and Bill Fitzpatrick who are all running for Bethlehem City Council all said they would introduce an anti-discrimination ordinance and they would support domestic partner benefits for the employees of the City. Council candidate Jim Follweller could not attend because he was in Afghanistan in the military, his wife spoke on his behalf, but she said she couldn't answer any questions on Follweller's stand on equal rights. John Rybak, who is running for Judge of the Court of Common Pleas spoke supportively, though judge candidates had not been contacted for this event.

2



RAGS TO RICHES TAKE THE FIRST STEP

by Denise McKelvey

Dear Denise, Recently, my partner, our children and I were in a very bad auto accident. My partner was driving and my brand new 2005 Toyota Sienna van was totaled. As it stands, I have had a very difficult time with my insurance company. Is there some advice you can offer to prevent others from winding up in the same situation? These costs have been extremely high, not to mention it has grossly affected our financial plans for the future. It has wiped out our kids' college education funds. With only one of us working and the other taking care of our children, this is having a huge impact. And, did I mention that the other driver was underinsured? **Signed, Been there and not liking it!**

Dear Been there, The number of persons without automobile insurance, even in compulsory states is estimated to be 5 to 30%. There is no perfect mechanism to prevent an uninsured, or even unlicensed, driver from getting behind the wheel. The minimum amount of automobile insurance is only up to \$25,000 for any injured person. A note of caution, if you allow your partner to drive your vehicle, the primary insurance provider will be the driver's coverage. Therefore, be sure you understand your partner's policy choices. She may have a different philosophy than yours.

Personal auto policies include 4 parts: Part A-Liability Coverage, Part B-Medical Payments Coverage, Part C-Uninsured Motorist Coverage, Part D-Coverage for Damage to Your Auto. When you obtain a new vehicle, Parts A, B and C will automatically become part of your new policy. Part D will not become effective in the first 14 days of purchase, if you have not notified the insurance company and specifically ask to have Part D coverage applied, immediately. Lack of coverage for 14 days on your new vehicle can be a huge liability. Also note that your personal auto policy will apply only to accidents and losses that occur in the United States, its territories or possessions or in Canada.

Unfortunately, you have no control over uninsured or underinsured individuals who might cross your path. The best that you can do is take care of your own coverage by having a thorough conversation with your Auto/Home insurance agent and be sure to explain your specific needs and concerns.

Denise McKelvey, CFS is a financial advisor for American Express Financial located at 5100 Tilghman Street Suite 170 Allentown PA 18104. Please email or email questions to denise.mckelvey@aexp.com. Information contained in this article may not be suitable for your specific financial situation.

PRIDE EVENTS & MEETINGS

Events: Teri Courtney B-Day Bash at Diamonz, Friday, May 13, Tequila, Queen of Pride, at Diamonz Sunday, May 22, Flag Football w/Apollo, tba, if interested in playing or cheering email volunteers@prideglv.org. Pride Pageant in June...if interested in running for King, Queen, Mr. or Miss Pride, please email volunteers@prideglv.org (winners get free photo shoot, perform at Pride in the Park, and hold a few fundraising events throughout the year)

MEETINGS: Fundraising/Membership Committee Meeting, Wednesday, May 4, 7:00pm. Bethlehem Book Loft & Caffeine Cafe, 521 E. 4th Street. Contact: volunteers@prideglv.org
Board of Directors Meeting, Monday, May 9, 7:00pm. Panera Bread, Tilghman & Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown. Contact: ckristofik@prideglv.org. **Pride in the Park Committee Meeting,** Wednesday, May 11, and May 25, 7:00pm. at Panera Bread. Contact: bwentz@prideglv.org. **Rainbow Scholarship Committee Meeting,** Thursday, May 26, 7:00pm. at Panera Bread. Contact: rainbowscholarship@prideglv.org.

CHECK OUT PA DIVERSITY'S WEBSITE AT WWW.PADIVERSITY.ORG

HOT NEWS

HAVEN YOUTH GROUP

HAVEN MEETINGS : every Wednesday from 7:00 - 9:00PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Meetings are open to GLBTAQ youth ages 14 - 20. For information: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com or 610-868-2153. HAVEN needs facilitators & volunteers for meetings and the Prizm Prom. Facilitator training provided.

PFLAG TIMES

PFLAG - Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays, www.eastern-pa-pflag.org. e-mail: info@eastern-pa-pflag.org. Meeting locations: LV - 1st Tues., 1st Pres. Church, Allentown. 610-967-5219. Reading - 3rd Tues., Unitarian Universalist Church, Reading. 610-967-5219. Monroe - 1st Wed., Eastern Monroe Public Library, Stroudsburg. 570-620-1234. Meeting Dates: Allentown: May 3, June 7, Monroe: May 4, June 1. Reading: May 17, No meeting in June.

STEVIE Z

Stevie Z future Allentown Stonewall/Moose dates: Friday May 13 and Sat May 28, June 10 (Friday), June 25 (Sat), July 1 (Friday), July 29 (Friday) - all evenings 9PM-Midnight. Half of the tips received will go to PRIDE of the Greater Lehigh Valley. Come out and sing along to the grand piano, and celebrate live music.

AA MEETINGS END

G.A.Y. Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at MCCLV have come to an end due to lack of attendance. If anyone has questions about AA meetings call the Hot line answering service at 610-882-0558.

FACT CONCERT POSTPONED

Due to certain circumstances the benefit concert hosted by Allan Organ held for FACT, Fighting AIDS Continuously Together, scheduled for April 24 was postponed. No later date has been scheduled at this time.

FACT SUMMER GAMES

FACT Summer Games will be held September 11 2005 at Rainbow Mountain Resort, East Stroudsburg, PA. Twenty years of services helping the AIDS community.

GAYDAR LAUNCH PARTY BENEFITS PRIDE

According to Pride Pres. Constance Kristofik, the Gaydar Magazine 2nd Issue launch and Pride Fundraiser at American Hairlines took in over \$1300! Carson Kressley greeted fans and autographed copies of Gaydar. Over 150 people attended and were treated to music by DJ Grand Pooh Buttz (sound system donated by City Entertainment) and powerful performances by Nick Evans & Storm. Food and drink were donated by Allentown Goose, Chocolate Lab, Bud Lite & Franklin Hills Winery. Please watch for more Gaydar Magazine sponsored fundraisers throughout the summer, in the pages of the Valley Gay Press.

FACT BENEFIT

VENDERS WANTED for FACT EVENT. "FORGOTTEN TREASURES" (YARD/GARAGE SALE) at Pennsylvania Expo Center in South Whitehall. Saturday, June 25 & Sunday, June 26. Large Size Booth at Reasonable rates. Easy Access. Air Conditioned. Plenty of Free Parking. (Perfect for Non-Profit & Neighborhood Groups). For additional Information: 610-820-5519 or 610-360-6523 or 610-417-4384

GLOSS EVENTS

GLOSS- Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society Events.

The "alternate" Pinochle group will meet once again on Saturday, 6 May from 7-10 PM, in Effort, PA. In keeping with many of last month's "ground rules:"

- The first four respondents are guaranteed to play. After that it will depend on the number of extras that respond.
- Because of room, it would be best to limit to a total of 8 players.
- Regarding snacks and drinks: please bring to share.
- This is a NON-SMOKING event.

MAY is the beginning of Volleyball season for GLOSS.

For more information about these activities, contact GLOSS by email: Info@gloss.org, or web: www.gloss.org

PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 17

HAVEN PROM INFORMATION

HAVEN presents 2005 PRIZM PROM, the 2nd Annual Prom for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Questioning and Allied Youth in the Lehigh Valley & Surrounding Areas. Sunday, May 22, from 7-11 pm at the Radisson Hotel in Bethlehem. The chaperoned event is open to youth between the ages of 14-20. Anyone who is not 14-20, must contact HAVEN for prior approval. Tickets are \$25.00 per person if purchased before April 30, \$30.00 after. Tickets can be purchased at HAVEN's weekly Wednesday 7 pm meetings at the UUCLV (424 Center St., Bethlehem). The event will be alcohol, substance & smoke free. Formal attire is strongly recommended, black tie optional. The 2004 Prizm Prom Court will be crowned at 10 pm.

HAVEN thanks American Hairlines and GLOW at PPL for their generous contributions. More sponsors & advertisers are needed. For more info, to get tickets, for details on local retail discounts, to donate, or to advertise, please contact HAVEN (web: www.prizmprom.com email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com phone 610.868.2153).

See the Prom poster on page 1.

THEATRE OUTLET PRESENTS

Theatre Outlet will premiere an urban choreopoem by Harlem playwright Lisa McCree. And My Name Ain't Peaches, An Urban Choreopoem by Lisa McCree. Directed by Corey Pearlstein, Choreography by Charles O. Anderson. May 6-21 at the Silkwerks, 930 N. 4th Street, Allentown.

Sex in the inner-city is the subject of Lisa McCree's provocative comedy about self-acceptance in a world of rejection. Through spoken word, music and dance, McCree captures the pain, strength and hope of women living in urban America with lyricism, honesty and humor. World Premiere.

Parental Advisory: And My Name Ain't Peaches contains adult language and themes - recommended for mature audiences.

For tickets, contact SmartTix at www.smarttix.com or call 1-877-238-5596 to order by phone. Theatre Outlet subscribers call 610-820-9440 to place reservations. For more information on talk-backs, poetry slams and the artists, visit www.theatreoutlet.org.

CALENDAR

Am Haskalah, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, Services at Allentown JCC at 22nd and Tilghman Streets, <http://www.jrf.org/amhaskpa>, 610-435-3775
ACCO-A Chorus Celebrating Women, AIDS Outreach-112 N. 5th St. Allentown, PA 610.435.8424

AIDS WALK-see **FACT**
ASC-AIDS Service Center 610.974.8701
All Together Now - Supportive Ecumenical Christians, 610-398-1286, bluemountain@entermail.net

BMA- Bucks/Montgomery Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Concerns 215-529-0360
CIVIC and 19th St. Theater, 527 N 19th St, 610-432-8943, <civictheater.com>
CUUPS - Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans every 4th Sunday at noon at the UUCLV. uucv_cuups@yahoo.com.

Enigma Players--qacres@prolog.net
equal@agere - email: equal@agere.com
FACT- Fighting AIDS Continuously Together 610.820.5519

GLEE at Air Products
GLISN- at Dun & Bradstreet, <vgrantholloway.com/GLISN/>
GLORA- Gay and Lesbian Organization of Reading and Allentown (Social gathering various dates) Newsletter- The Tassle. Write to: GLORA, PO Box 541, Bethlehem, PA 18016-0541, email: GLORA2004@aol.com

GLOSS - Gay and Lesbian Organized Sports Society, P.O.Box 21862 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002 610.434.2966.

GLOW- at PPL
HAVEN GLBT Youth Group of the UUCLV - call: 610-868-2153, email: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com

HMFF-Hope Ministry Family Fellowship, Sundays, 11 am, Open Space Gallery, 931 Hamilton St. 610-791-0716

Integrity- Lesbian & Gay Episcopalians Family & Friends meets quarterly. 610-758-8642 gamba.guy@verizon.net

infoline - Greater LV GLBT Infoline: 610-HELP123 (435-7123) M-F 6pm -9pm Office: 610-432-5449

INTERWEAVE -- GLBTAI group at the UUCLV. 3rd Sundays.. Interweave_UUCLV@yahoo.com www.uucvpa.org 610-866-7652.

LVGMC -Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus, email: info@lvmgc.org, <www.lvmgc.org> 610-366-3320, rehearsals: Wesley United Methodist Church, 2540 Center St., Bethlehem

Lehigh Valley Transsexual Coalition- 610-610-997-0976, humanrights4all@aol.com, 610-814-0530 JamesHalleman@aol.com

MCC - Metropolitan Community Church, Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th Street, Allentown Services: 10:30am & 6pm, mcclehighvalley@yahoo.com, <http://www.mccclv.org> 610-709-8800

NCC- Northampton Community College GLB Student Union, 610.861.5541(#1386) or 882-2531

19th St & Civic Theatre - 610.432.8943
Out There- Students at Cedar Crest College

OVOM-LV Documentary Film Org.
PA-Diversity Network- 610-432-5449 www.padiversity.org PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley, PA 18002

PA-GALA - PA Gay And Lesbian Alliance for Political Action, (Candidate Guide, & Political Lobbying) P.O.Box 20825 Lehigh Valley 18002 610-863-0227 pagaala.org

PARENTS- GLBT parent's group: 610-262-2519
PFLAG - LV Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1st Tues. 1st Pres. Church Allentown 610.967.5219 <http://www.eastern-pa-pflag.org/>

MAY 2005 VOTE IN THE PRIMARY: MAY 17

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 40th Anniv	2 RAA LVGMC	3 GLOSS LV PFLAG	4 M PFLAG HAVEN PRIDE MTG	5 PA-GALA CINCO DE MAYO	6 MCC Games Gloss Pinochle	7 WDIY Interweave Retreat TO Play
8 HMFF TO Play	9 LVGMC PRIDE MTG	10 GLOSS	11 HAVEN AA PRIDE MTG	12 GLOSS RAA	13 Stevie Z Bowling PRIDE Event	14 WDIY GLOSS
15 MCC WDIY HMFF UUCV	16 RAA LVGMC	17 GLOSS PFLAG R PRIMARY ELECTION	18 HAVEN AA	19 RAA GLOSS	20	21 WDIY GLOSS GLOSS GAMES
22 Prizm Prom PRIDE Event	23 RAA LVGMC	24 GLOSS	25 HAVEN AA	26 RAA RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP MTG	27	28 WDIY GLOSS Stevie Z
29 HMFF UUCV GLOSS MCC WDIY	30 LVGMC RAA	31 GLOSS RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE				

JUNE 2005 PRIDE MONTH FESTIVAL JUNE 19

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 M PFLAG HAVEN	2	3	4 LVGMC Concert GLOSS
5 WDIY UUCV HMFF	6 LVGMC RAA	7 GLOSS LV PFLAG	8 HAVEN AA	9 GLOSS RAA	10 GLOSS Bowling Stevie Z	11 WDIY GLOSS
12 HMFF UUCV MCC Gloss Bowling	13 LVGMC RAA	14 GLOSS	15 HAVEN AA	16 RAA GLOSS	17	18 GLOSS WDIY
19 PRIDE FESTIVAL	20 LVGMC	21 GLOSS	22 HAVEN AA	23 RAA GLOSS	24	25 GLOSS WDIY FACT BENEFIT Stevie Z
26 GLOSS WDIY CUUPS UUCV HMFF	27 LVGMC RAA	28 GLOSS	29 HAVEN AA	30 RAA GLOSS		

JULY 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Stevie Z	2 GLOSS WDIY
3 MCC HMFF UUCV WDIY	4 LVGMC RAA	5 LV PFLAG	6 HAVEN AA M PFLAG	7 GLOSS RAA	8 GLOSS Bowling	9 WDIY
10 UUCV	11 LVGMC	12 GLOSS	13 HAVEN AA	14 RAA GLOSS	15	16 WDIY GLOSS
17 WDIY UUCV	18 RAA LVGMC	19 GLOSS PFLAG R	20 HAVEN AA	21 GLOSS RAA	22	23 WDIY GLOSS
24 HMFF UUCV GLOSS WDIY MCC	25 LVGMC RAA	26 GLOSS	27 HAVEN AA	28 RAA GLOSS	29 Stevie Z	30 WDIY GLOSS

THE ALLENTOWN MAYOR CANDIDATES INTERVIEWED ON GLBT ISSUES

BY LIZ BRADBURY
SEE MORE ABOUT THESE INTERVIEWS
IN LIZ'S COLUMN ON PAGE 7.
(THE ORDER OF THE CANDIDATES
WAS DETERMINED BY THE ORDER
OF THEIR INTERVIEWS.)
PHOTOS BY LIZ BRADBURY

QUESTIONS

1A. Do you support the Allentown Human Relations Ordinance?

1B. Would you continue Allentown's efforts to defend the ordinance in the courts?

2. Did you do anything to try to help efforts to support the anti-discrimination ordinance when it was being challenged by a petition for referendum?

3. What things have you done to support GLBT rights and the GLBT population of this City? Have you ever spoken in public in favor of GLBT rights? What was the occasion?

4. Would you support Domestic Partner Benefits for the partners of GLBT people employed by the City of Allentown?

5. The Allentown City Charter requires equal employment rights for employees of the city of Allentown based on sexual orientation? Do you support the Charter regarding this issue?

6. A. Do you support the work of the Allentown Human Relations Commission? Would you support that Commission becoming an investigating and adjudicating group on discrimination issues?

6. B. Would you retain the position of Human Relations Officer? Would you keep that position as a cabinet position? What do you think that person should be doing for the city?

7. Do you belong to any organization that excludes or that does not treat GLBT people equally? Church? Boy Scouts? Focus on the Family? Salvation Army? If so, have you tried, in any way, to change the attitude or policy of this/these groups?

8. What, as Mayor, would you do for the GLBT population of Allentown, please be specific to issues of GLBT rights and equality.

9. Do you have any openly GLBT people working on your campaign team?



ED PALOWSKI (D) WITH
CAMPAIGN MANAGER ROB HOPKINS (LEFT)



LOUIE BELLETIERI (D)

1A. Yes

1B. Yes, it's important for the city and it's the right thing to do.

2. As a municipal employee, I couldn't do anything public, but I had conversations with City Council members in support of the ordinance and I tried to lobby the opposition to stop.

3. I worked with the Democratic Committee of Allentown on a non-discrimination policy that included sexual orientation. When speaking about economic issues, I've spoken in favor (of GLBT rights).

4. Yes, it wouldn't cost the city any more.

5. Yes. City Hall should be a model of "The Best" place to work. That includes non-discrimination and benefits.

6A. Yes, and I would take it further I would reestablish bureau positions to help minority owned businesses, that includes GLBT businesses.

6B. I've worked closely with this officer. I would retain the position.

7. No. I belong to a progressive church. The pastor has spoken (in favor of gay rights) from the pulpit on more than one occasion.

8. Support the Ordinance and fight for it to the Supreme Court. Reestablish the AHR Bureau and expand the role of the AHR. Reach out to the GLBT community. Try to attract and market the city to that community.

9. Yes, Rob Hopkins (Campaign Manager) and Bob Whitman (Press Secretary)

1A. Yes, a lot of what's good at 12th and Chew is Dina's bar and the gays in the neighborhood

1B. Yes

2. I can't say I did anything.

3. 25 years ago I supported Candida. I went around to the neighbors and to get support for her.

I've supported the parade but I can't remember the specifics.

4. I do support that. There are other ways to cut costs.

5. Yes, I would follow the Charter

6A. It sounds like a good idea. I'd like to take a look at it. These would be people who understood (discrimination issues.)

6B. (The Officer) should work with the Commission. If I held the position it would probably be a cabinet position.

7. No... well, I'm a Catholic, but you could say I'm not a practicing Catholic. I've sat on boards, I think they were supportive. (Mayfair Business Council, LVCAC.)

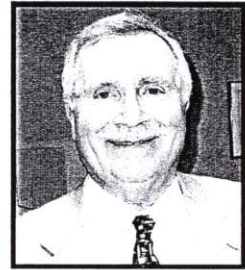
8. I believe that everyone in the GLBT population should have opportunities, and I would be one of the first guys there if I thought somebody's rights were being threatened.

9. Yes, Dina (Candida) she does fundraisers.



**OBHAN "SAM" BENNETT (D) FLANKED BY
CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEERS ((FROM LEFT)
KIP STONE, JOHN KRUMENACKER
JIM MOLCHANY, JOHN SECHLER**

**NATHAN
WOODRING
(R)
PHOTO NOT AVAILABLE**



BILL HEYDT (R)

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>1A. Yes</p> <p>1B. Yes</p> <p>2. When I was the Mayfair Chair I met the Pres. of Pride at a FACT event and as a result, Pride was a "Community Partner," organizing an auction at Mayfair. Bringing Pride in showed Mayfair supported the gay community</p> <p>3. I was just at an event for Oscar Night and Gaydar at the Federal Grill. I was interviewed on TV, there, supporting my gay brothers and sisters.</p> <p>4. Yes</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6A. I'd have to have more clarification on this but, we have to become good at supporting efforts with volunteers.</p> <p>6B. Yes and Yes. This position is needed to enforce the law We do have to consider financial concerns (but) we have to look at what we cannot do without. The cabinet should have minority members and they may be volunteers.</p> <p>7. Though my grandfather was very key in the Boy Scouts, I don't support their policies. I go to First Presbyterian, are they supportive? (When she was told that church does not support gay clergy or unions, she added.) I was involved with the Episcopal Church, with my former husband.</p> <p>8. It's clear this is an important group whose rights I'll protect along with the rights of all minorities. I'll look to representatives of that and other minority communities for the cabinet.</p> <p>9. Yes, Jim Molchany, Kip Stone, John Sechler, John Krumenacker</p> | <p>1A. Yes</p> <p>1B. Yes, everybody has a right to support their family, no matter what shape their family is.</p> <p>2. ...I didn't sign</p> <p>3. My schedule hasn't allowed me to. I would support the policy as it is, in the future.</p> <p>4. I would</p> <p>5. Yes, I support it. I have a copy of the Charter.</p> <p>6A. I support it, I'd have to see (more on the investigating and adjudicating).</p> <p>6B. I'd keep the position. It's important to develop better relations with minority groups.</p> <p>7. I'm a member of the Baptist Church but I don't push my beliefs on someone else. I think people should be allowed to be who they are.</p> <p>8. Set policies that would treat GLBT people equally. Enforce the current laws. I wouldn't discriminate against people who are qualified. I would treat GLBT people with as much respect as I treat everyone else.</p> <p>9. I'm the only one on my campaign team.</p> | <p>1A. Yes</p> <p>1B. Yes, I don't like the idea of people (from outside Allentown) coming in and telling us how to run the city.</p> <p>2. I wasn't involved (in the referendum effort). I wouldn't stir up any petitions in the future.</p> <p>3. I have a lot of friends, both male and female who are gay. I wrote Pride Proclamations and I delivered one at one of the first Pride Festivals. When I was Mayor I instituted anti-bias (including GLBT bias) training for all employees.</p> <p>4. No, for financial reasons, and also because it's cumbersome to prove (relationships).</p> <p>5. Yes</p> <p>6A. As long as it is effective and not costing the city anything, I wouldn't stand in its way.</p> <p>6B. Not as a cabinet position. I did eliminate that position before.</p> <p>7. I go to a Catholic Church, but I have never heard anything one way or another (anti-gay or pro-gay) in that church.</p> <p>8. I would treat everyone the same. As mayor I should be doing everything that is the best for the city of Allentown.</p> <p>9. I don't have a very large committee.</p> |
|--|--|---|

Pride - Pride of the Greater Lehigh Valley, (Pride Festival) 610.770.6200, email: <info@prideglv.org>, <www.prideglv.org>
QUEST - Student group at Lafayette College
Quakers - Lehigh Valley Friends Meeting - Route 512 1/2 mi. North of Rte 22 Bethlehem, PA.
 Worship at 9:30 am. (610)691-3411.
RAA - Rainbow AA meetings, Mon. & Thurs. At 16th and Turner.
Ren - Renaissance Transgendered Assoc., Meets at MCCVL renlv.org
Rainbow Space - Muhlenberg College Organization 610.821.3244
Reading P-FLAG 610-967-5219
Safe Space - At Lehigh U. 610.758.5973
Saint John's Lutheran Church - A welcoming, gay affirming church, 32 S. 5th st. Allentown 610.435.1587
Softball (Women's) call Diamondz, 610.865.1028
Temple Sophia, Interfaith Sanctuary 117 E Ridge St., Coaldale 18218 570-657-6447
T.O. - Theatre Outlet, Allentown, 610-820-9270.
Unity - 26 N. 3rd St. Emmaus, 767-4417
UUCLV - Unitarian Universalist Church LV, 424 Center St., Bethlehem, 18018 610.866.7652.
VGP - Valley Gay Press, 610.432.5449, liztrish@aol.com VGP PO Box 22902 Lehigh Valley PA 18002 www.padvivis.org
Wachovia-GALEA - Gay And Lesbian Employee Association. Contact GALEA@Wachovia.com
WDIY - WDIY - 88.1 fm 93.9 fm Sat. 6:00 pm This Way Out, Assorted Women 6:30 pm. 610-694-8100.88.

SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENTS:

GLBT YOUTH GROUP
HAVEN - WEDNESDAYS
LV PFLAG - 1ST TUESDAYS
MONROE PFLAG - 1ST WEDS
READING - PFLAG 3RD TUESDAYS
GLOSS VOLLEYBALL - TUESDAYS
GLOSS TENNIS - SUNDAYS
GLOSS RACQUETBALL - TUES & SATS
GLOSS BOWLING - 2ND FRIDAYS
LVGMC REHEARSALS - MONDAYS
MCC GAME NIGHTS - 1ST & 3RD SATS
INTERWEAVE - 3RD SUNDAYS

MAY 1 - 40TH GLBT CIVIL RIGHTS ANNIVERSARY
MAY 3 - ALLENTOWN PFLAG
MAY 4 - PRIDE FUNDRAISING MTG
MAY 4 - MONROE PFLAG
MAY 5 - PA-GALA FUNDRAISER
MAY 6 - GLOSS PINOCCHIO
MAY 6-21 - TO PREMIERE
MAY 7 - INTERWEAVE RETREAT
MAY 9 - PRIDE BOARD MTG
MAY 11 - PRIDE IN PARK MTG
MAY 13 - STEVIEZ
MAY 13 - PRIDE @ DIAMONZ
MAY 17 - PRIMARY ELECTION
MAY 17 - READING PFLAG
MAY 22 - HAVEN PROM
MAY 22 - PRIDE FLAG FOOTBALL
MAY 26 - RAINBOW SCHOLAR MTG
MAY 28 - STEVIEZ
MAY 31 - SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE
JUNE 1 - MONROE PFLAG
JUNE 4 - LVGMC CONCERT
JUNE 7 - LV PFLAG
JUNE 10 - STEVIEZ
JUNE 19 - PRIDE IN THE PARK
JUNE 25/26 - FACT BENEFIT
JUNE 25 - STEVIEZ
JULY 1 - STEVIEZ
JULY 29 - STEVIEZ
SEPT 11 - FACT SUMMER GAMES

INFORMATION SUBJECT TO CHANGE!
TO POST INFO: 610-432-5449
LIZTRISH@AOL.COM

PRIDE GLV

FESTIVAL, GRAND MARSHALLS & ENTERTAINMENT

THE SPIRIT OF PRIDE... Do you have it? Come cheer your way to a brighter future for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community at Pride in the Park 2005, Sunday, June 19th. Festival includes Pride Art Gallery & Auction, Pride Pub, Bingo, Interfaith Service by MCC-LV and All-Together-Now, Dignitaries, Kidspace w/Caren Leonard, Storybook Characters and much more. Bring your friends and family!

PRIDE IN THE PARK

Sunday, June 19, 2005 -- Noon -- 7:00pm

Opening Ceremonies at 1:00pm

Cedar Beach Park, Allentown

www.prideglv.org (website details coming in late May)

GRAND MARSHALLS/KEYNOTESPEAKER:

Roberta and Rev. Harold Kreider are passionate advocates for justice for all people who are marginalized by the church and society. Harold is a retired Mennonite pastor and Roberta had a gay brother who died of AIDS in 1984, and since 1998 she has published three books of faith stories from the GLBTIA community. PrideGLV honors the Kreiders for their community activism and support of queer people of faith.

ENTERTAINMENT: Pride does it best to provide a diverse lineup of music genres in addition to covering the GLBTIA spectrum. Here is the 2005 lineup with times to be announced in June.

Host, Mr. Murray Hill, the hardest working middle-aged man in show business, <http://www.mrmurrayhill.com>

Zen for Primates, eclectic LV favorite, <http://www.bummertent.com/Featured.htm>

Alix Dobkin, legendary lesbian activist & folk artist, http://www.ladyslipper.org/alix_dobkin

Amber, diva and dance music sensation, PITP's headliner, <http://www.amber-mcc.com>

Namoli Brennet, gender-variant indie-pop, <http://www.namolibrennet.com/>

Ricardo Alvarado, latin songwriter and dancer, <http://www.ricardoalvarado.com/>

RANTS & RAVES BY STEPHEN T. LIBBY

One Pope dies, another is appointed. You mean there WAS another mortal who was worthy and we still sat by and allowed PJPII to dictate which parts of the Bible we should adhere to... like it was the gospel? That's the role of the flock. Sit. Obey. Lie. Repent. Repeat. Similar to shampoo. Cheat, steal, and be President of the United States can all be substituted for "lie" in that list.

The thing that makes me wonder who spiked the wine, is his age. I totally support anti-gism but, Pope Benedict XVI is 78 years old!! I mean isn't there another saint-like (saint-ish?) living soul who is 77 or 76?

The following is an outtake from the new DVD release, Cardinals Gone Wild: Spring Break: "Well, we can't appoint John Paul III, the name is not very original and he's only 75. He hasn't lived!" How they laughed. Cardinals have a great sense of humor. One cardinal even lost his pointy hat. Another outtake: "He can choose any name and he chooses Benedict!?" "What, Madonna was already taken?" "Oy vay!" They were rolling in the aisles. Insert your own holy-roller joke here. Later one of the cardinals blows cheese-wiz out his nose. My Lord. Isn't anything sacred?!

I'm starting to think maybe nothing should be sacred. I'm a God fearing man (I should be, after this column...). I just think God has a great sense of humor. She'd have to. I mean we came equipped with a sense of humor. Thank God. It comes in handy, as the world is a crazy place these days. So much of the craziness is based on the belief of one holy scripture versus another. Holy lands are covered in bloodshed. Rights denied to whole groups of people because of scripture. We are walking a particularly blurry line between church and state here in the US. This was not what our founding fathers had in mind.

Contrary to popular belief, I was not at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, so, I am not speaking by personal knowledge. But, I was visited by the ghost of John Hancock the other night and he confirmed my thoughts. My other-worldly friend said, "I can understand the misunderstanding over the right to bear arms thing. Who could have foreseen automatic weapons? But we must not be misunderstood on Church and State. So help me, keep them separate or I will come back and snuff your candles!" (That was a big threat back in the day. Really, who wanted their candle snuffed?)

After discussing the glory days of the minuet, waltz and disco, John H. delivered a few Bush jokes from the great beyond. I'll share one punchline: "They both should have been licked last fall."

I pray we are able to keep them separate. Sure, priests and young boys too, but I meant church and state. Anyway, it is with an open mind and hopeful heart that I wish the best to Pope Benedict XVI and the world. Peace. And smooches, (If more people smooched there would be less fighting. I mean how can you fight when you're trying to tear open a condom?). Steve

PLANET Parenthood

by Earl and Donnie Snyder
donniearlucas@msn.com

Children in Church

A lot of parents these days wonder how to properly go about introducing their children to religion. At what age, what church, and what denomination? Some wonder whether to even take the child to church at all. We decided to follow our hearts. After all, it's all about faith.

When our son Lucas came into our family, we chose to share what is important in our lives with him. This included our religious life. He has been attending Metropolitan Community Church services with us since he was born last year. Last October, Rev. Beth Goudy of MCCLV performed a beautiful baptism ceremony for him.

MCCLV is the Valley's premier GLBTA church. Its congregation is made up primarily of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community members and their allies. There are singles, couples, and families. A significant number of families include one or more biological, foster or adopted children. All are welcome. As such, MCCLV has become a very important part of our life and we have become actively involved, taking on various leadership roles within the church.

Of course, Lucas does not understand the sermons yet nor can he "sing" in tune with the hymns, but he enjoys being with his two dads. He loves the music. He is amazingly attentive during sermons, even though he is only 15 months old. He can't get enough attention from the congregants. There is a growing Children's Ministry at MCCLV led by Deb Ramsdell. The Children's Ministry provides care for children during services that includes both educational and fun activities. Pastor Goudy also frequently invites the children (and parents) up to the altar for a "mini" children's sermon.

As Lucas grows, so may his own involvement in MCCLV or some other church or faith. At present, MCCLV provides us with an opportunity to introduce our son to faith in a welcoming atmosphere and to allow him to experience worship and fellowship from a uniquely pro-GLBT perspective. Lucas will get to know other GLBTA people in a family friendly setting. He will get to know other children in GLBTA families. Maybe he will develop a faith of his own along the way. We will guide him and then let him follow his heart.

RAINBOW SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MAY 31

The Rainbow Scholarship seeks to assist gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex (GLBTI), college bound teens with school expenses while increasing the positive visibility of queer youth and promoting awareness and acceptance in the community at large. There is also an essay contest to foster dialogue between administration, counselors, faculty and youth regarding minority issues. Applicants must identify as GLBT or I for two of the scholarships, the essay contest is open to students regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Applicants must reside in Berks, Bucks, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Schuylkill or Warren county, provide proof of acceptance to an accredited institution by June 1, and submit two letters of recommendation, a transcript and a completed application. Applications can be downloaded online at <www.prideglv.org> or by calling 610-770-6200 ext. 8.

6

SCOTT SAYS

By Scott Laubner



IN MEMORIAM: JAMES GEIGER

I was saddened to hear James "Jim" Geiger passed away on Thursday, April 14th in a tragic auto accident. Some people knew Jim better than I did, but I knew him well enough to know he was a good man. I always enjoyed his company, as well as his smile and independent spirit. Jim danced to the beat of his own drum, but so sincere and playful was his music that many followed his lighthearted sound and danced along.

I asked his closest friend and confidant Kurt Sauer to sum him up and he said, "Jimmy was always there when you needed him, and a friend to all who knew him."

Jim was born in Allentown and graduated from Liberty High School. From 1982 through 1989 he served in the US coast guard. After leaving the service he worked for Coca-Cola. Jim loved

being around people. A sun worshiper; he enjoyed tanning, and going to Sandy Hook, NJ and Rehoboth Beach, DE. He also liked traveling to New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. as well as biking, clubbing, and drinking Pepsi.

My condolences to Kurt and Jim's family; may God watch over you in this sad time.

And Jim if you're reading this, you were the first person I met who made me feel comfortable about losing my hair and showed me I could be proud and "openly bald." Remember God made only so many perfect heads, the rest he covered with hair. I miss you.



ALLENTOWN'S ANTI-DISCRIMINATION ORDINANCE- THE LATEST UPDATE

Recap: Allentown passed the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity to the City's ordinance in 2002. It was challenged by an anti-gay petition for referendum, which was unsuccessful.

In 2003 the Arizona anti-gay group Focus on the Family's lawyer from Lancaster brought a suit against Allentown to try to overturn the law - saying that cities in PA should not be able to have anti-discrimination laws that go farther than the PA State law does. The case was argued and we had excellent lawyers on our team working for the City. However, the Judge (Allan Black) himself found an obscure State law that could be interpreted to say that "Home Rule" cities must not allow their city councils to make laws that regulate businesses.

Judge Black did find that it was OK to have anti-discrimination laws that went farther than the State. So Harrisburg, which was a party to this case, and is not a Home Rule City, could keep its law. But since Allentown is Home Rule, Allentown's ordinance was struck down by the lowest court.

Allentown appealed the case. While under appeal the protections of the ordinance stay in effect. It was just heard by the Appeals Court in April and a decision will be made at this court level soon. Since the first court case, the State Supreme Court has decided in favor of the City of Philadelphia having a far reaching Domestic Partner rule, which may help to support Allentown's rights. We hope for a favorable ruling at this court level, but regardless of the decision, the case will probably be appealed all the way to the State Supreme Court.



LIZ OUT LOUD 7

CANDIDATES *By Liz Bradbury*

The Valley Gay Press is a 501c3 organization and as such we can't endorse any candidates. However, we can give you educational information. So here it is.

I interviewed five of the six candidates for Allentown Mayor running in this month's May 17 primary. Only Republican candidate David Bausch, who as an Allentown City Councilman voted against the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity to the city's anti-discrimination ordinance and who signed a petition supporting a referendum to repeal the anti-discrimination ordinance after it was passed, did not respond to our call. Candidate Nathan Woodring was interviewed over the phone, the rest were interviewed in person. Sincere thanks to each of these candidates for his or her time, in addressing these issues.

As the Valley Gay Press deals specifically with the GLBTA community, I asked each candidate a series of questions on Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Civil Rights issues. While I recognize that other city issues are very important, information on the candidates' views on those issues can be found in other media and news sources.

The first thing I asked each candidate was if they were familiar with Allentown's Anti-Discrimination Ordinance and what it does. (Protects people from discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodation based on a series of "protected classes" that includes sexual orientation and gender identity.) Then I asked if each candidate was familiar with Allentown's efforts to defend the ordinance in the courts. (See page 6 for information on the court case.) Unfortunately none of the candidates knew much about either the ordinance or the court case. This kind of surprised me because I had tried to make it clear to them all before the interview that I would be specifically asking them about those things.

During each interview I gave the candidates extensive information about GLBT rights issues in the city. I covered the ordinance and the court case, and also what the Human Relations Commission does, how the Allentown Charter protects GLBT city employees, why domestic partner benefits do not cost an employer extra money, and how companies determine who gets those benefits. I even covered what "gender identity" means. If the candidates asked me questions about GLBT rights, I tried to answer them fully.

While there were some differences between the candidates, it was good to hear that each candidate supports the Allentown Anti-Discrimination Ordinance and would continue the fight for it in the courts. It was cool that half of the candidates have openly GLBT people working on their campaigns.

Please take this information, and information that comes to you from PA-GALA, and other sources and vote in the Primary on May 17. PA-GALA will be having a party on May 5 (see page 1 for details). Candidates will be there, you'll be able to ask them questions about your concerns.

Remember that Primary elections throughout the Lehigh Valley are often very close. Four years ago, the Democrat Mayoral Primary was won by 46 votes, eight years ago that same primary was won by just one vote. PA-GALA lists nearly 1000 voters in Allentown alone. Our votes can swing this election. Make a careful and educated decision.

SEE PAGE "A" FOR THE CANDIDATES ANSWERS

PDN TO PRESENT AT INTERWEAVE RETREAT

Pennsylvania Diversity Network Boardmembers Liz Bradbury & Dr. Patricia Sullivan will be presenting a workshop at the Interweave Retreat on May 7, titled: Legal Papers You Need to Protect Yourself & Your Same Sex Partner. For information about the retreat see page one.

TRISH'S COLUMN

GLBT-FRIENDLY SERVICES *By Patricia Sullivan*



Finding the right professional and personal service providers is complicated. You need a doctor, a dentist, an accountant, an attorney, and perhaps topping the list, someone to cut your hair perfectly. It isn't easy to find these people because we each have our own personal criteria that defines what good service is. When you are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transsexual your criteria necessarily become more complex, and I don't just mean the hair cutting part. It's risky to trust your health care or your legal representation to a person who doesn't have knowledge and experience with GLBT health and legal issues. You shouldn't assume the OB/GYN doctor recommended to you by your straight friend, will necessarily be right for a lesbian wanting to start a family, or that the attorney your brother used for his estate planning will be able to do the right thing for two gay men in a long term relationship. But how can a GLBT person even find out before hand if a service provider is GLBT-friendly much less GLBT knowledgeable? The yellow pages just don't seem to have that information. Where does someone even start? For those of us who have GLBT-friendly and knowledgeable providers, finding these providers has been a long process of trial and sometimes error.

Pennsylvania Diversity Network (PDN) is developing a list of GLBT friendly resources on its web site. A particular strength of the directory is the list of professionals who were recommended by GLBT persons who are out to those professionals and who have found them to be GLBT-friendly and knowledgeable. PDN is working to check the resources that have been recommended, by contacting the resources and asking them a few general pro-GLBT questions. Recommended providers who are confirmed by PDN are listed as PA Diversity Verified GLBT-Friendly on the PDN web site. This is not a certification of a particular provider's skill, rather it is a label to identify those individuals and businesses recommended by out GLBT people in the community who were satisfied consumers.

If you are looking for a GLBT friendly service provider, log on to the PDN web site and click on resources. Or, if you have a good doctor or lawyer, or other service provider that you are out to, and who you feel has demonstrated they are GLBT-friendly and knowledgeable, PDN would like you to help us expand this resource list by recommending those professionals and service providers.

Go to the PDN web site at <www.padiversity.org>. Click on Resources. To recommend your doctor, lawyer, therapist etc. go to the bottom of the alphabetical list of resources and click on help make our community healthier. You can even recommend your own business if you feel it fits the GLBT-friendly criteria.

On the other side of the coin, the Greater Lehigh Valley GLBT Infoline, (610-HELP-123), PDN's call in helpline for GLBT people, provides referrals to GLBT callers in the community. Volunteers are needed for a few hours at a time on a regular basis to answer calls from people who need information about our community and its resources. The line can be forwarded to your own phone. PDN provides training for Infoline volunteers. To volunteer, or for more information, contact PDN at 610-432-5449.

PRIDE PARADE COULD BE CANCELED

The City of Allentown has increased fees affecting the Pride in the Park celebration. To reduce the budget, the annual Pride Parade may be cancelled (the board will decide May 9). Please support the community march by becoming a sponsor of the parade. Contact ckristofik@prideglv.org for details.

POP QUIZ

8

Match these lines to the name of the GLBT poet or writer who wrote them.

(a. Walt Whitman, b. Gertrude Stein, c. W.H. Auden, d. Emily Dickinson, e. H.D. (Hilda Doolittle), f. Sappho, g. Allan Ginsberg, h. Noel Coward, i. Oscar Wilde, j. Katherine Lee Bates)

1. He was my North, my South, my East and West, My working week and my Sunday rest...

2. O CAPTAIN! my Captain! our fearful trip is done;

3. I caught sight of a splendid Misses. She had handkerchiefs and kisses. She had eyes and yellow shoes she had everything to choose and she chose me.

4. O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain, For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain!

5. Stars wheel in purple, yours is not so rare as Hesperus, nor yet so great a star as bright Aldebaran or Sirius, nor yet the stained and brilliant one of War...

6. Oh I wish I could see the enamoring step and the shiny glare of her face, rather than Lydians' chariots and infantry's battles and armor.

7. I saw the best minds of my generation destroyed by madness, starving hysterical naked...

8. Wild Nights -- Wild Nights! Were I with thee
Wild Nights should be Our luxury!

9. Mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun. The smallest Malay rabbit deplores this foolish habit.

10. We should treat all the trivial things seriously, and the serious things in life with sincere and studied triviality.

QUOTE #4

"I do not understand, having covered the White House for as long as I did, how he got ... a press pass on a false name, on an alias. I don't know how that happened. You have to be cleared through the Secret Service in order to get a press pass, which you have to wear at all times. I mean, there's something behind this story that hasn't come out, clearly. Clearly! Duh!"

-- Journalist Lesley Stahl in reference to the White-House-press-corps/Jeff-Gannons scandal

QUOTE #5

"I could build a Lincoln log cabin of homophobic denial...there's been a cover-up, a conspiracy of silence for experts to hide what they regard as dirty linen in Abe's faded carpetbag." -- Civil War historian Michael Chesson, discussing the new book, "The Intimate World of Abraham Lincoln," by author and sociologist C.A. Tripp. The book offers significant information that supports the premise that Abraham Lincoln was gay and had sexual same-sex relationships.

We believe it would improve the quality of life in the Lehigh Valley if all people were equally protected from unfair discrimination based upon actual or perceived: race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry or place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, family status, age, disability, or use of a guide animal, in the areas of employment, housing, and public accommodation.

PA Diversity Network

GLBT Infoline

PA-GALA

Valley Gay Press

Allentown Human Relations Commission

Safe-Space of Lehigh University

PFLAG Lehigh Valley

ACCO - A Chorus Celebrating Women

GLORA

Pride of the GLV

LV Gay Men's Chorus

NCC GLBT Student Union

The Lehigh Valley Labor Party

EQUAL! at Agere

Metropolitan Community Church LV

OutThere - Cedar Crest

9th Street Shelter Allentown

LV Community Action Committee

GLEE at Air Products

FACT

AIDS Outreach

The Unitarian Universalist Church LV

GLOSS

LEPOCO

GLISN of Dun & Bradstreet

AIDS Services Center

Theatre Outlet

Integrity - Bethlehem

The Lehigh Valley Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)

Civic Theater

19th Street Theatre

The Latin Alliance

The Enigma Players

New Covenant Family Ministries

Properties of Merit

Allentown City Democratic Committee

Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem

Puerto Rican Cultural Alliance

Turning Point of the Lehigh Valley

Muhlenberg Theater Association

Crime Victims Council of the Lehigh Valley

Touchstone Theater

To add your organization to this list, Contact VGP

QUOTE #1

"I think I know what Bush meant now when he said he had a mandate. ... Isn't it sort of obvious that [Jeff Gannon] had a boyfriend in the White House? Somebody at the highest level was spilling the beans while he was spilling the beans." - TV's Bill Maher in reference to the White-House-press-corps/Jeff-Gannons scandal

QUOTE #2

"The literal blood of the thousands of gay people physically wounded by hate during 2004 is on the hands of Jerry Falwell, James Dobson, Tony Perkins, and so many others who spew hate for partisan gain and personal enrichment." -- NGLTF's Matt Foreman, on rising hate crime statistics.

QUOTE #3

"California cannot have an honest discussion about civil rights without talking about gay and lesbian rights." - Alice Huffman, President of the California NAACP

Distelfink^{5/05}
by Ruby Zebu

"What makes a man?"

If you missed PA-GALA's Bethlehem candidate night at Diamondz in April, you missed an interesting moment, when candidate for mayor Anthony Rybak (D) said he supported equal rights for same-sex couples and domestic partner benefits, but that he felt marriage had traditionally been between a man and woman...

A question from the floor started this exchange:

--Local activist James Halleman: "So how do you define man and woman?"

--Tony Rybak: "...I guess it is by genitalia."

--James Halleman: "So do you think I should be able to marry my wife?"

--Tony Rybak: "Well, sure, yeah..." he said looking over at the woman sitting next to James.

--James: "You know, I went to high school with you."

--Tony: "You did...to Liberty? What's your name?"

--James: "Well, in those days it was JANE Halleman."



Tony

James

To Tony Rybak's significant credit, he went immediately to James' table and sat down and they spoke for the rest of the evening. VGP has no doubt that Tony Rybak now has a much better understanding of gender and transgender issues. Rybak was the only candidate for Mayor of Bethlehem who attended the event. Read more about what the Bethlehem candidates said that night in What's That About on page 2.

The editorial columns and political cartoon that appear in Valley Gay Press express the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of this publication. VGP makes no indication of the sexual orientation of persons, organizations, or businesses mentioned in any issue.